

THE *Mountaineer*

"All the news you want to hear... All the announcements you have to"

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The Formal

Review



By Chris Hall

Finally, we have all taken part in the honorary Formal Review. This event was executed with frightening precision and housed an overall sentiment of pride and devotion to the program. The true colors of the principles behind the program shone brightly under yesterday evening's sun. All members of the staff, especially the cottage counselors, should be congratulated on this remarkable accomplishment. Boys' State citizens also deserve a round of applause for their flawless participation in the event.

For many, one of the greatest honors received at the Formal Review

was the guest appearance of Governor Bob Wise. He understands the true importance behind Mountaineer Boys' State. On another level, he is the first to realize that this program aids in the development of the essential qualities of leadership and allegiance to one's country and government. Participating in Mountaineer Boys' State was a very rewarding experience for Governor Wise. The experience he had at Mountaineer Boys' State has proven to be invaluable to him; it has carried with him all throughout his political career. Citizens of Boys' State should

take it from the word of our governor that the time they spend at the camp will last with them a lifetime. Whether or not you decide to pursue a political career in the future, the experience you have here will undoubtedly be beneficial to you in some way. According to Governor Wise, the opportunity to learn about government is one of the best investments you can make. The Boys' State program offers every young man the opportunity to expand his knowledge on governmental procedures. In relation to government, knowledge is power.

MOUNTAINEER *Forum*

From the Editor's Desk:

For our safety, the state of West Virginia (the real state, not Boys' State) has established laws, specifically traffic laws. At Boys' State, in an effort to emulate the real government, the state police force has been placed in charge of enforcing many traffic laws. However, many of these laws are ridiculous.

Speeding (running) will likely be a common offense. With many places to go, and often a short amount of time to get there, people should be allowed to run. Afterall, we are outside and there is plenty of room on the road to accommodate runners.

Another rule requires walkers to signal when stopping or turning. With all of the turns a person makes in the course of walking from one building to another, it is conceivable that their left arm could fall off from excessive signaling.

Drinking and driving in real life is a serious offense. At Boys' State it is ludicrous. Walking with food or a drink is considered being under the influence. If the beverages sold at the gift shop and in the vending machines were intoxicating, there would be a real need for this law, but it is doubtful that anyone is going to get sloshed beyond being able to walk from drinking a Coke.

Passing occurs sparsely on the road, but in walking, it occurs constantly. According to the Boys' State police force, walkers are required to give a visible and audible signal before passing. First, how is a person facing away from a walker going to see the visible signal? Second, is it appropriate to honk the horn when passing another vehicle?

The state police program at MBS is a great opportunity to learn, but please be reasonable.

Rock-n-Roll: Corruption or Strength

By Jason Hatcher

Even since it's birth in the 1950's, rock-n-roll has been at odds with society. When Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley exploded as the first rock stars, parents, religious leaders, and politicians called them "agents of the Devil trying to seduce America's youth with evil and un-American messages."

Fifty years later, rock-n-roll has matured. The names have changed, but society's views on rock-n-roll have not. As many rock stars compete with each other in a contest to do the most outrageous and memorable performance, many people use the stars' stunts as proof of the negative messages that they try to sell to today's youth.

With the string of school shootings over the past few years, even more adults are placing the blame on musicians. The musicians taking the bulk of the blame are metal artists, due to the often depressed and angry nature of their music. These themes find a common thread with teenagers in a time where many are disgusted by the "teen pop" culture and the traditional school "social ladder" or "lists."

Even more teens feel persecuted for their taste in music. In the past, these teens either did nothing or complained to a teacher. These days, many of these students feel that teachers simply don't care and don't want to admit weakness to their parents. This leaves two options: keep taking the harassment or stand up for themselves and risk a physical confrontation.

Is it bad for today's youth to learn to stand up for themselves? No. But it would be better if *effective*, non-violent programs were started to help head off these types of situations.

So, is rock-n-roll a bad influence on the country's youth? Or, has rock-n-roll given today's youth back the backbone that they had lost?

One Man Walked into the Bar

By Patrick Gruber

Wednesday marked the first day in which citizens of Mountaineer Boys' State were divided into their respective job groupings to begin the true microcosm of the American legal system. The city officials prepared budgets, the judges heard their first cases, and the police began enforcing the first laws.

But what did the lawyers do? Well those of you, who are lawyers, are doubtlessly whining about the legal instruction you had to undergo. But more importantly, the lawyers of the 2001 Boy's State were sworn in yesterday.

Having passed the bar exam, I was promptly in place at the Supreme Court Chambers (Flameway) at 11:00 am. But like all things in the American legal system, we began at 11:30.

After the Attorney General was sworn in, "Dick" then presented us as the lawyers. After a vague promise to uphold the constitution and what not, we were admitted to the bar.

But in the spirit of MBS, things weren't that bad. I did get to met quite possibly the laziest person in camp...or the luckiest. As "town crier," Samuel Johnson gets to: a) chill with the Supreme Court all day, IN THE AIR CONDITIONING, and b) say one paragraph each time the Justices enter or exit. Now I challenge anyone to find an easier job.

Special Announcement

**Band rehearsal at 7:30 pm
at the assembly hall.**

Time is running out! If you want to express your opinion in the Mountaineer, write a letter to the editor or a guest column and submit it at headquarters, see the editorial policy below for details.

The Mountaineer

Editorial Staff:

Jeffrey Richmond: Editor-in-Chief
Scott Leighton: Assistant Editor
Jared Stout: Production Manager

Staff:

Chris Hall, Patrick Gruber, Jason Hatcher, Brandon Riley, Andrew Davis, Drew Eddy, Brandon Vessey

It is the policy of the Mountaineer not to discriminate on any basis. All letters to the editor and all guest columns will be considered for publication and may be edited for content and/or length. All submissions must be signed, NO ANONYMOUS LETTERS WILL BE PRINTED.

Athletics

Massacre?

First, I would like to apologize for the schedule printing of the first session, which was in fact skipped for the Formal Review (see story page one).

But onto second session action. The most intriguing game I attended was the Volleyball game between the Lewis Nationalist and the Marion Federalists. The Nationalist suffered a humiliating defeat, to the tune of 15-2. TWICE!!!

More than anything, these citizens amazed me with their joy. Merely fielding a team was their concern, and they went out to have fun. Another thing that impressed me was the graciousness of the winning team.

The Federalists laughed with the losing team, and even shook hands after this clean game. It appears that no matter how hard any of us try the values and ideals of Mountaineer Boys' State eventually rub off.

While most of the camp has held true to this philosophy, some have instead chosen to forfeit a game rather than even try. This goes against everything every taught to us about trying our best, and not giving up. Not to mention it hurts our cabin in the all important Fuggit.

So go play, and have a little fun on the fields or courts. This is not the Olympics. Do not take these games as so, merely field a team, have fun...and maybe let the other team score more than two points.

For the recent schedule changes, see the updated schedule in the adjacent column.

Further second session action, can also be seen in the accompanying At a Glance."

The New Schedule

Second Session Thursday: Volleyball (Hardcourt)

Lewis N v. Marion N
Randolph F v. Upshur

Volleyball (Sand)

Calhoun v. Kanawaha N
Panhandle N v. Randolph N

Ultimate Frisbee

Braxton N v. Monroe F
Panhandle F v. Lewis F

Softball

Gilmer v. Monroe N
Kanawaha F v. Marion F

Basketball

Barbour v. Monogalia
Braxton F v. Webster

First Session Friday:

Volleyball (Hardcourt)

Kanawaha F v. Webster
Lewis F v. Randolph N

Volleyball (Sand)

Braxton F v. Randolph F
Gilmer v. Panhandle F

Ultimate Frisbee

Barbour v. Panhandle N
Marion N v. Monroe N

Softball

Kanawaha N v. Monongalia
Lewis N v. Monroe F

Basketball

Braxton N v. Upshur
Calhoun v. Marion F

Results At a Glance

Second Session:

Volleyball (Hardcourt)

Barbour v. Monongalia
Braxton N v. Monroe N

Volleyball (Sand)

Kanawaha F v. Webster
Lewis n v. Marion F

Ultimate Frisbee

Braxton F v. Randolph F
Calhoun v. Upshur

Softball

Lewis F v. Panhandle F
Marion N v. Randolph N

Basketball

Gilmer v. Monroe F
Kanawaha N v. Panhandle N

**** Bold indicates winner****

Just for fun!



Lynch him!!!!!!

Panorama

Meet Matt Stonestreet

By Jeff Richmond

The boys have spoken, and in an overwhelming mandate from the people have chosen Matthew Stonestreet to represent them as governor of the 2001 Mountaineer Boys State. Though many citizens know him as an articulate candidate for governor, they don't know him as a person.

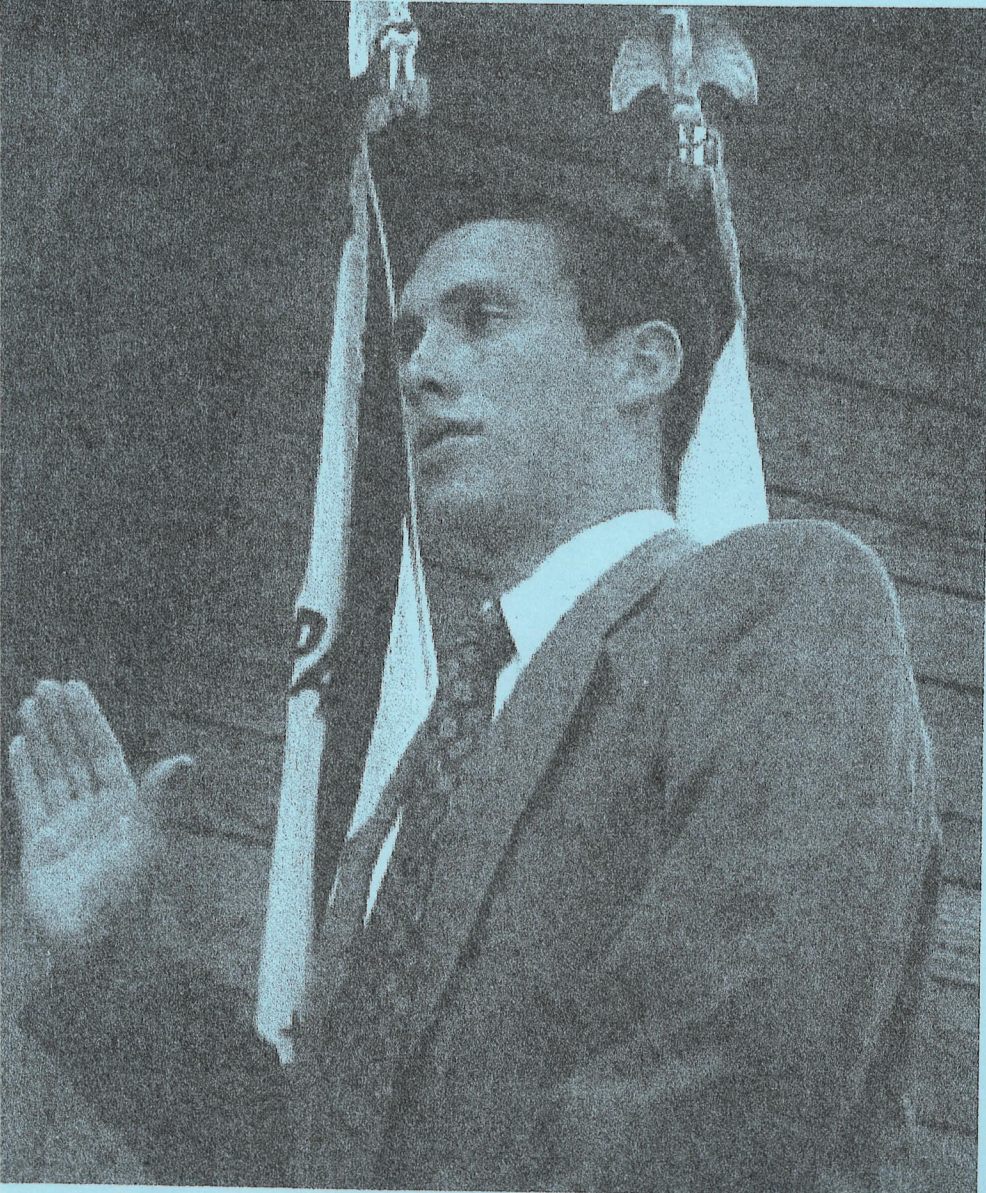
Stonestreet is from Bluefield and plays tennis and soccer for his high school. In addition to sports, he is the president of his student body.

Stonestreet has a family history of politics at Boys' State, his brother was Secretary of State at Boys' State two years ago. Additionally, Stonestreet's hometown of Bluefield has yielded four Boys' State governors in the past two years. Stonestreet said that his motivation to run came from his older brother who doubted his ability to win the position of Governor. In fact, when his family initially heard the news from Stonestreet via telephone they did not believe him, not until they had spoken with a counselor at some length did they believe his story.

He now plans to push for the issues on the Federalist platform, but pledges that he will work to represent both parties.

Stonestreet said that Boys' State has been a wonderful learning experience and he has made many dear friends from all over the state.

Photo Courtesy of Phil Hancock



An Assembly to Remember

By Scott Leighton

At last night's assembly one of the most memorable nights happened at Boys State. This was the night that we honored America and veterans that fought for our freedom. We heard from two of the most inspirational speakers that had the citizens on their feet.

First off was A. James Mansion. This gentleman gave a speech that no one could forget. He spoke of our freedom and how we are the future of America. His voice was well heard without the microphone and there wasn't a single head down in the crowd. Mansion spoke of words that will forever stay with the citizens of Boys State.

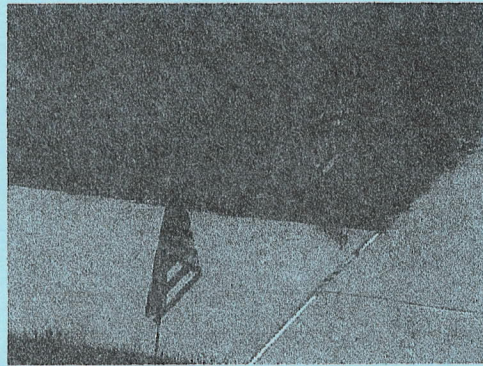
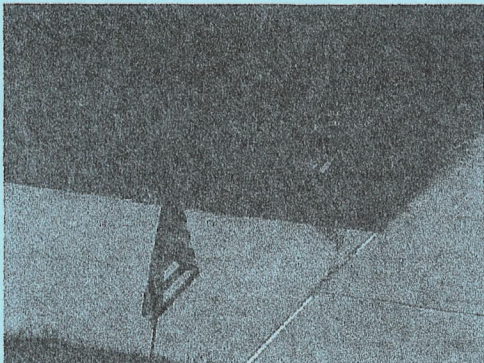
Next, everyone got a chance to honor the men and woman who were involved in any conflict that our great nation went through. They fought for our country so that we could be free from tyranny.

The last man to speak needed no introduction. We heard his name throughout Boys State as a hero and patriot of America, but Woody Williams surprised everyone when he said, "I am not a hero. The men that didn't make it back are the heroes." Mr. Williams received the Medal of Honor, the highest award that this nation has, for going beyond the call of duty as a demolition sergeant. Corporal Williams' aggressive fighting spirit and valiant devotion to duty throughout this fiercely contested action sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He spoke of flag burning and how Congress should pass the law denying people the right to burn the flag. It is not the right of free speech. It is the right of dishonoring your country and it should be stopped.

These gentlemen showed every citizen why they are here and why they can walk with their heads up high, pride that we live in this great nation. Now it is time to show them what potential we have to keep it that way.

Mountaineer *Panorama*

Flag



Day

By Betsy Potterfield

Today, June 14th is Flag Day. Proper care and presentation of the flag are as important as what the flag means to American citizens. However, some citizens and businesses display the flag in an incorrect fashion. Here are some dos and don'ts on flag care and etiquette that are listed in the Federal Flag Code: *The flag should be displayed from sunrise to sunset. If displayed after sunset, a light must shine on it. The flag should be raised briskly and lowered slowly, and an all-weather flag is necessary in bad weather.

The flag should be flown on designated days of historic meaning, such as the Fourth of July. However, it may be flown every day of the year. It also needs to be flown at all public buildings, where people vote on Election Day and when school is in session.

A badly soiled, faded or torn flag should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. This type of burning is not desecration of the flag.

Flags should never be flown upside down except during dire emergencies, and it should never touch the ground.

The flag should never be carried flat or have items carried on it. It should always be free floating and aloft. It also should never be used as

clothing or a uniform.

Groups may wear flag patches on a uniform, if they are worn in accordance with the flag code. A button or pin depicting the American flag may be worn as a demonstration of patriotism.

Storage of the flag should be in a place where it cannot be soiled or damaged. The flag should not be drawn or marked on, used as drapery or drawn back in folds.

The flag should not be used as a ceiling or table cloth or used for advertising purposes.

Raising the flag to half-staff on Veterans or Armistice Day is incorrect. These days are set aside to honor veterans, not mourn them.

When flying on a single flagstaff, along with another flag, the American flag must fly at the top. This assures it will be raised first and lowered last. On special days, it may be flown at half-staff on Memorial Day, it should be flown at half staff until noon, then raised to top of the flag pole.

Hanging vertically, the union (blue area with 50 stars) should be in the upper left corner.

If the flag is mounted on a staff, the American flag should be to the right of the speaker and to the left of those looking at it when displayed at the speaker's platform, it must be above and behind the speaker.

Inspection Rankings 6-13-01

Barbour - 100
Braxton - 97
Calhoun - 94
Gilmer - 97
Kanawa - 100
Lewis - 97
Marion - 91
Monongalia - 97
Monroe - 82
Panhandle - 88
Randolph - 88
Upshur - 94
Webster - 97



Governor Wise spoke at Wednesday's inauguration. He addressed the promise scholarship among other issues.